

## Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /104 W

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R 151443Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8741

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONGEN MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 2092

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR RO PO

SUBJECT: FURTHER ROMANIAN VIEWS ON RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL'S JUNTA

REF: (A) BUCHAREST 2016; (B) BUCHAREST 1941

1. ROMANIAN PREPARATIONS FOR CLOSER RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL MOVED ANOTHER STEP TOWARD FORMALIZATION AT PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SESSION MAY 14. LABELING COUP "THE VICTORY OF POPULAR (AND) DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTIONARY FORCES AND OF ARMED FORCES IN PORTUGAL", EXCO ASSERTED THAT "ROMANIAN PEOPLE WILL DEVELOP RELATIONS OF COOPERATION WITH THOSE FORCES, WITH THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE, IN INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES' PROSPERITY, AND OF PROMOTING NEW RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES". ANNOUNCEMENT ALSO MENTIONS RECENT ROMANIAN CONSULTATIONS WITH "NATIONAL LIBERATION" REPRESENTA-  
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TIVES FROM ANGOLA AND GUINEA-BISSAU AND "A SERIES

OF AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE", AND EXPRESSES HOPE THAT PORTUGAL'S AFRICAN TERRITORIES WILL "DEVELOP INDEPENDENTLY".

2. MIHNEA GHEORGHIU, CEAUSESCU'S RECENT EMISSARY TO GEN. SPINOLA (REF A), TOLD AMBASSADOR MAY 15 HE HAD REPORTED FAVORABLY ON JUNTA AND GENERAL ATMOSPHERE IN PORTUGAL. NOTING THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND ROMANIA JURIDICALLY HAD NEVER BEEN "BROKEN" BUT RATHER "INTERRUPTED" AFTER WORLD WAR II, GHEORGHIU IMPLIED THAT ONLY TIMING WAS AT ISSUE IN RESUMING RELATIONS AND NEXT STEP WAS UP TO PORTUGUESE. GHEORGHIU STATED THAT FUNDAMENTAL AND FAVORABLE TURNING POINT HAD OCCURRED IN PORTUGAL, AND HE HAD BEEN SENT TO LOOK SCENE OVER. HE PROFESSED NO KNOWLEDGE AND LITTLE INTEREST ON WHAT OTHER EAST EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS CHOSE TO DO, NOTING ROMANIANS HAVE MOVED AHEAD OF OTHERS ON SUCH QUESTIONS AS RELATIONS WITH WEST GERMANY.

3. GHEORGHIU ASSESSED PORTUGAL'S INTERNAL SITUATION AS REMARKABLY CALM, WITH LEFTISTS, INCLUDING COMMUNIST PARTY, PLAYING RESTRAINED ROLE AND ESCHEWING "EXTREMISM" AND "TERRORISM". AMONG POPULACE HE HAD SENSED "EUPHORIA" OR "RELIEF" RATHER THAN ANY "CHOOSING UP SIDES" FOR POSSIBLE CIVIL CONFLICT.

4. REFERRING TO GOR'S CONSULTATIONS WITH AFRICANS (ABOVE), HE STATED ROMANIA FAVORS NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN JUNTA AND COLONIES RATHER THAN CONTINUED ARMED STRUGGLE. GHEORGHIU SAID HIS IMPRESSION WAS THAT ENTIRE JUNTA AND ALMOST ALL POLITICAL TENDENCIES FAVORED SOME KIND OF INDEPENDENCE FOR COLONIES BUT WERE NOT IN AGREEMENT ON HOW THIS SHOULD BE DEFINED OR WHAT RESIDUAL TIES WITH PORTUGAL SHOULD BE PRESERVED, E.G. COMMONWEALTH RELATIONSHIP OR MORE COMPLETE BREAK. THEY WERE AGREED HOWEVER THAT SUCH DECISIONS HAD TO BE MADE BY THE PEOPLE OF BOTH PORTUGAL AND THE COLONIES.

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5. COMMENT: MENTION BY EXCO PUBLICLY AND GHEORGHIU PROVATELY OF ROMANIAN CONTACTS WITH AFRICANS OVER PORTUGUESE SITUATION COULD WELL IMPLY THAT, IN ADDITION TO ENSURING THAT GOR'S MOVES TOWARD CLOSER RELATIONS WITH JUNTA DO NOT WORK AT CROSS PURPOSES WITH ROMANIA'S MORE IMPORTANT LONG-TERM AFRICAN CONNECTIONS, CEAUSESCU MAY AGAIN NOT BE ADVERSE TO INSINUATING THE GOR INTO SOME KIND OF "GOOD OFFICES"

ROLE AS THE NEW SHAPE OF PORTUGAL'S RELATIONS  
WITH COLONIES EMERGES.  
BARNES

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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